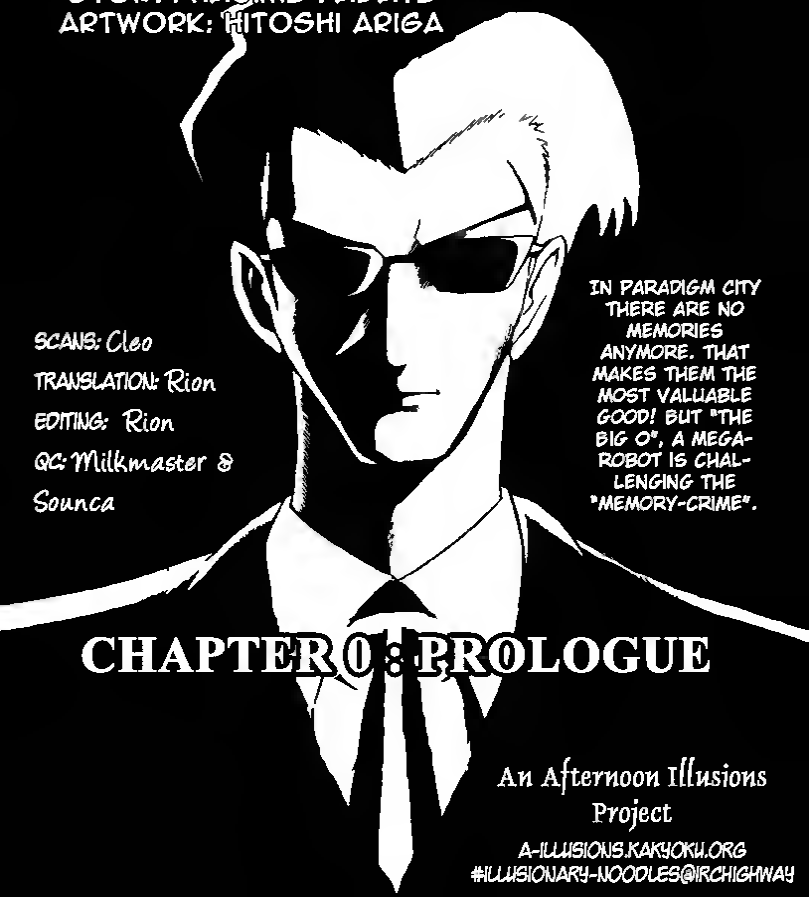
THE BIG O

STORY: HAJIME YADATE
ARTWORK: HITOSHI ARIGA



SCANS: Cleo
TRANSLATION: Rion
EDITING: Rion
QC: Milkmaster & Sounca

IN PARADIGM CITY THERE ARE NO MEMORIES ANYMORE. THAT MAKES THEM THE MOST VALUABLE GOOD! BUT "THE BIG O", A MEGA-ROBOT IS CHALLENGING THE "MEMORY-CRIME".

CHAPTER 0 : PROLOGUE

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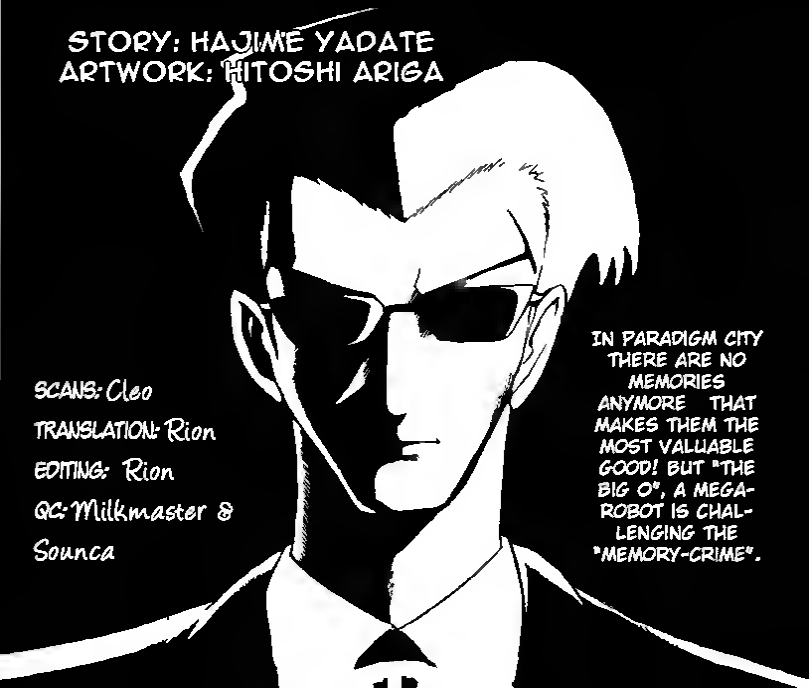
THIS IS PARADIGM CITY, A CITY WITHOUT MEMORIES.
40 YEARS AGO, THERE WAS A WEIRD INCIDENT THAT ERASED THE MEMORIES OF ALL PEOPLE.
EVEN TODAY, PEOPLE ARE LOSING THEIR MEMORY.
BUT MAN IS FORGETFUL BY NATURE...

EVEN IN THIS CITY, CRIME DOESN'T DIE.
IN THIS WORLD, MEMORIES ARE THE MOST VALUABLE GOOD...
TO FIGHT IT, THERE IS "BIG O".
A CITY DOMI-NATED BY STUPIDITY AND HOPE-LESSNESS NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE ME.
MY NAME IS ROGER SMITH. I WORK AS A NEGO-TIATOR.

THE BIG O SHOW TIME!

THE BIG O

STORY: HAJIME YADATE
ARTWORK: HITOSHI ARIGA



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IN PARADIGM CITY THERE ARE NO MEMORIES ANYMORE THAT MAKES THEM THE MOST VALUABLE GOOD! BUT "THE BIG O", A MEGA-ROBOT IS CHALLENGING THE "MEMORY-CRIME".

CHAPTER 1 : MEMORY THIEVES 1st ACT

An Afternoon Illusions Project

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CHAPTER 1

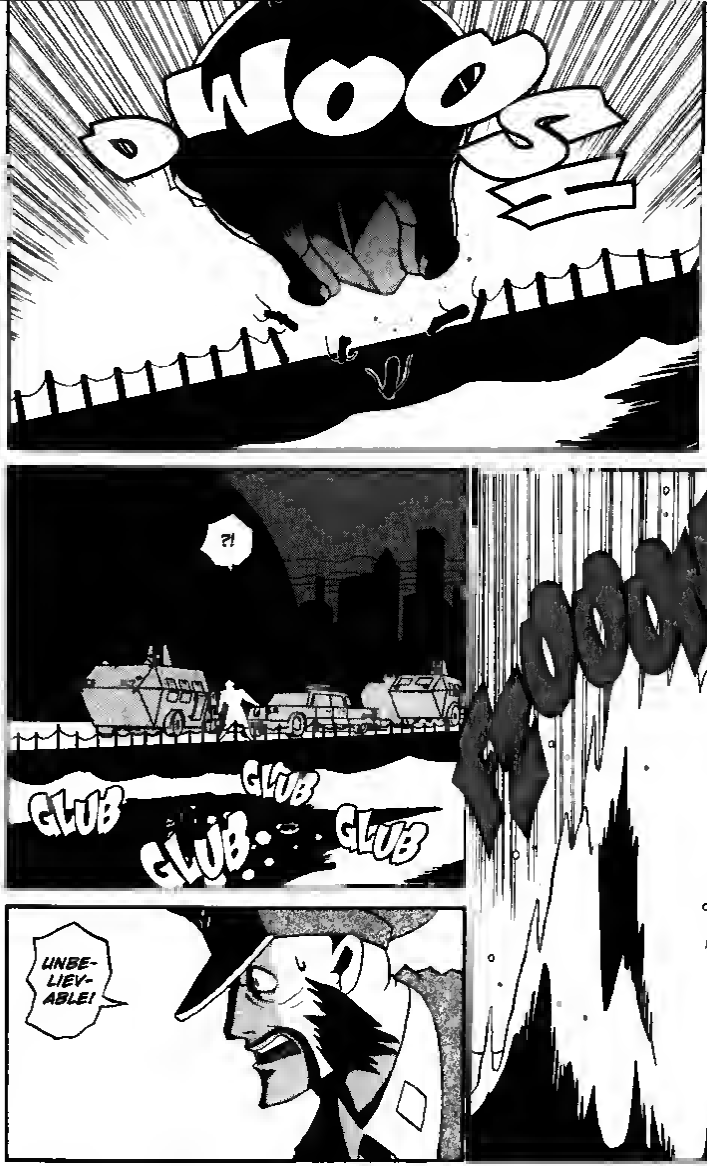
MEMORY THIEVES

HA, HA
HA
IDIOT!
WHAT ARE YOU STILL STANDING THERE FOR?
C'MON AND HELP US!

THAT'S IT.
FINALLY.
HE, HE. I WONDER HOW MUCH THIS IS WORTH.
THIS IS REAL TOBACCO !
BUHHH
WE'RE RICH!

W...?
WHAT?
YOU COULD ESCAPE THE LAW?
DID YOU REALLY THINK...
!?

DAMN!
SKREEE
NOT AT ALL...
MAJOR, THEY'RE DIRECTLY HEADING FOR THE CANAL!
WHAT? THAT'S SUICIDE!
DUEL


DNOOS
?!
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
BOOM
UNBE-
LIEV-
ABLE!

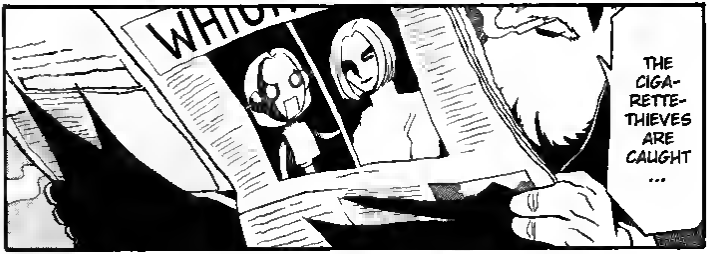
SLISSSSHH
SLISSSSHH
WE GOT RID OF THEM!
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA.
WHAT?
THERE'S SOME-THING AHEAD!
REAL TOBACCO, DELI-CIOUS!
DON'T SMOKE TOO MUCH!
FOLLOW THEM!
GO!

BWOOOSH
AH!

A CITY WITHOUT MEMO-RIES.
THIS IS PARA-DIGM CITY.
HANDS UP!
BUT THIS CITY HAS A PRO-TEC-TOR...
TSCHAK
BU HU HU!
AAAH!
SPLOTZ!!
THESE BEAU-TIFUL CIGA-
OH...
OH... HIM AGAIN.
WHO FIGHTS AGAINST INJUS-TICE.

A HUGE, MYSTERIOUS CREATURE CALLED MEGADEUS...
ALIAS
BIG O!

Caught Red-handed
Caught Cigarette Robbers Red-handed.


THE CIGA-RETTE-THIEVES ARE CAUGHT ...

HM...
PFFF
NO WONDER, THESE FAKES ONES ARE SIMPLY HORRIBLE.
THEY WOULD BE WORTH 2 MILLION BUCKS ON THE BLACK MARKET.
KLONK

FORTU-
NATELY I
DON'T
SMOKE...
I
PREFER
DRINK-
ING.

HM ...
JUST SPIT IT OUT...
OKAY, ROGER, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
AN ILLEGAL MODEL
...
I WONDER WHO HELPED THEM GET IT.
THEY USED A MECHA...
FUPP
SSP
CURIOSITY.
WHY WOULD A NEGOTIATOR BE INTERESTED IN SUCH THINGS?
OKAY ...
IT WAS BECK.
BECK?

HE'S ALSO CALLED "GOLD".
HE WILL DO EVERY-THING FOR MONEY.
HIS MECHAS WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN THE SNAKE AND THE BOM-BOM-FALL CASE.
..
I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING ELSE.
YOU COULD ALSO ...
TA'NG
THAT'S ENOUGH
I'M MORE INTER-ESTED IN THIS LADY.

A NEGOTIATOR..?
SO YOU ALSO NEGOTIATE ABOUT LOVE QUESTIONS?
ONLY FOR A BEAUTY LIKE YOU.
UNFORTUNATELY I HAVE TO DISAPPOINT YOU.
I'M NOT SOMEONE TO NEGOTIATE WITH...

?
YOU HAVE SUCH BEAUTIFUL EYES AND LOOK SO SAD...
BUT THE ONLY PART-NER...
THAT'S TRUE ...
MY NEGOTI-ATING PARTNER ...
IS HIDING BEHIND YOUR EYES.
DUM-PED?
I'LL SEE HER AGAIN.
...IS TIME.
ROSE
...I WOULD NEGO-TIATE WITH...

WHERE'S BECK?
TSCHAK
MAYBE HIS WATCH IS BROKEN ...
OR OURS IS FAST.
PROBA-BLY.

HELLO.
FINALLY.
EVERY-
THING
READY?
I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU.

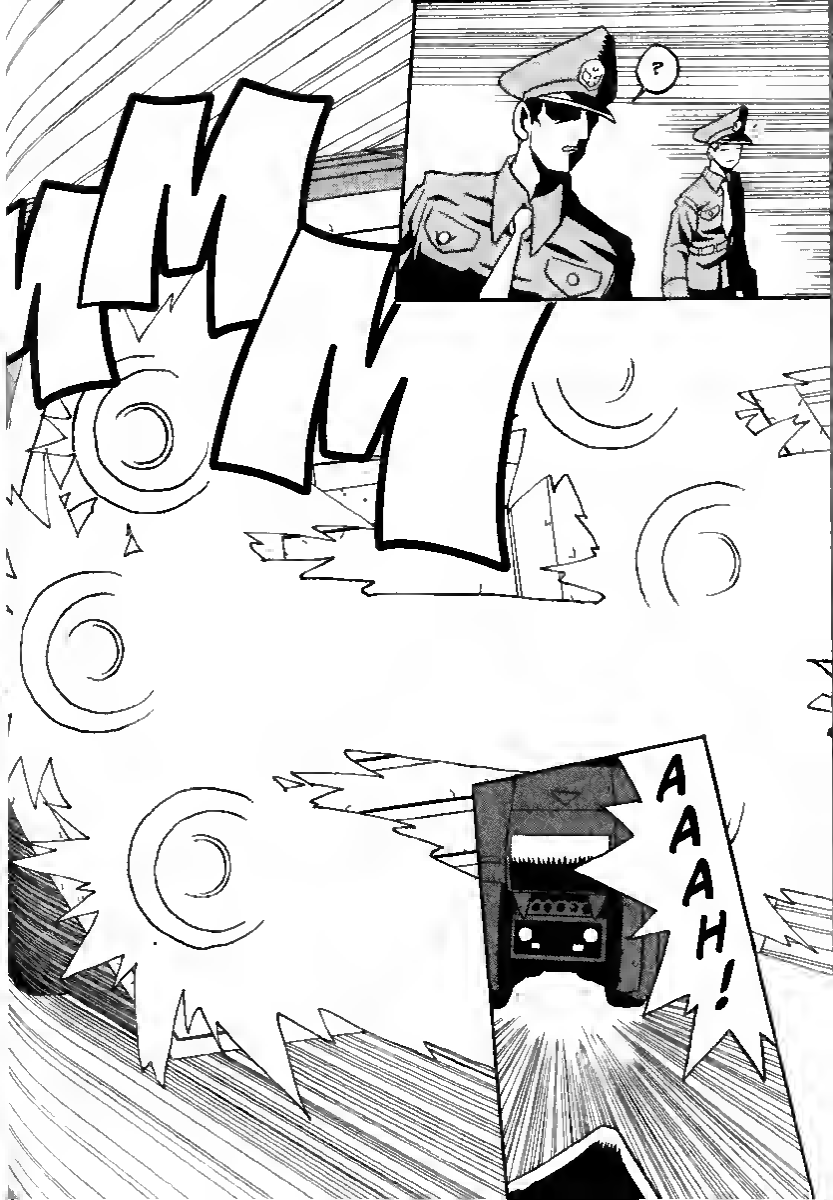
YOU ARE THE ONES WHO WILL GET THIS BEAUTY AFTER ALL.
HE HE HE HE HE.
AND WHAT ABOUT OUR PAY-MENT?
DON'T WORRY.
IF EVERY-THING GOES FINE, I'LL KEEP MY WORD.
WE'RE SHARING THE MONEY FIFTY-FIFTY...
AND YOU'LL HAVE THE REST!
...

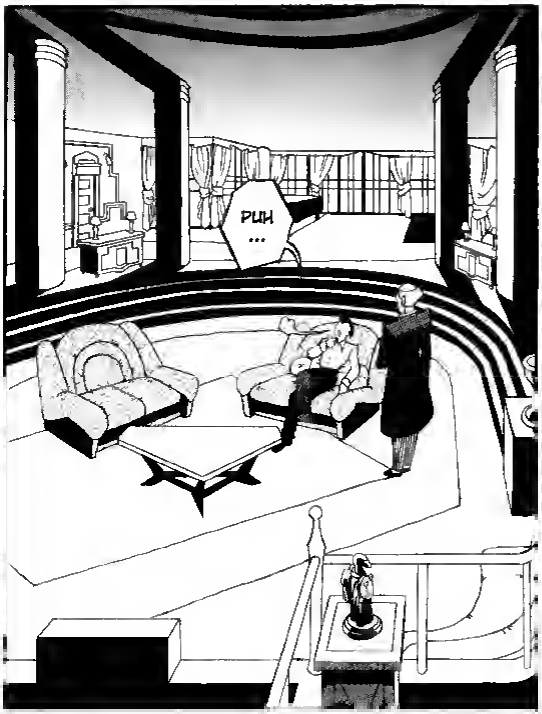
I'M YOUR LAST CHANCE, AREN'T I?
WE'RE BEARING THE WHOLE RISK!
DON'T FORGET THAT!
VRROOM
VROOM
IT'S TIME.
PAH ...
HA HA HA HA HA!

I'M FEELING UNEASY.
WHY?
I DON'T TRUST BECK.
THIS PLAN ISN'T SAFE...
SKREECH
BUT WE'RE WELL PREPARED.

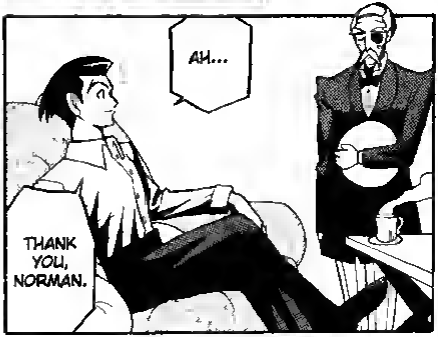
WE'RE FIGHTING THE MILITARY POLICE. AND WE...
WE CAN'T GO BACK...
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
SKRIII
GO!

VROOO
TACK
TACK-
TACK


?
MM
AAAH!


PUH ...

YOUR COF-FEE, SIR.


AH...
THANK YOU, NORMAN.

YES?
DELI-
CIOUS.
THERE'S
SOME-
THING,
MASTER
ROGER...
MHH
TAP
TAP
TAP
VERY
WELL,
THEN
MAYBE
...
LATER.
CON-
CERNING
MY
SALARY
...
NOT NOW,
NORMAN...
WHAT
AGAIN,
NORMAN?
TAP
TAP
TAP

YOU HAVE A VISITOR.
MAJOR DUSTON !
ROGER...

DOSCH
DOSCH
DOSCH
WOOMM
BAMM

ANOTHER INCI-DENT...
I SEE.
HOW MANY ARE THEY?
CAN'T THE MILITARY POLICE HANDLE THIS?
ONLY TWO?
TWO PEOPLE. A MAN AND A WOMAN...
!!
BOOM
SKRRR

THIS IS BAD.
MAJOR!
PAMM
HOS-TAGES?
THEY'VE GOT 5 POLICE-MEN HOSTAGE ...
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE...
WE COULDN'T DO ANY-THING!
UNFORTU-NATELY, THIS SITUATION IS A LITTLE BIT MORE COM-PLICATED.
IF THE POLICE-MEN DIE, THEIR RELATIVES WILL GET COMPENSA-TION MONEY.
IT'S MID-NIGHT... THE STREETS ARE EMPTY. YOU SHOULD ATTACK THE BUILDING.

PEOPLE AREN'T THE ONLY THING THEY'VE GOT...
TO THE MILITARY POLICE!
OUR DEMANDS ARE CLEAR!
500 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE MEMORY-FILES.
500 MILLION? IS THAT A JOKE?

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
THE MOST VALUABLE GOOD IS STORED IN THIS BANK...
WHAT ARE WE NEGOTIATING? SURRENDER OR LOWERING THE RANSOM?
I SEE...
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.
THEY'LL NEVER GIVE UP. THEIR ARMAMENT IS TOO POWERFUL.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT MONEY...
...TELL THESE PEOPLE!
PLEASE SAVE MY MEMO-RIES!
DO SOME-THING!
WE COULDN'T STOP THEM, MAJOR...
W... WHAT ?
I SUPPOSE THERE ARE ABOUT 50 PEOPLE. BUT BECAUSE IT'S YOU, I'LL CHARGE YOU AS IF THERE WERE 30.
THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU CAN HANDLE THOSE GUYS YOURSELF.
BUT THAT'LL COST YOU.

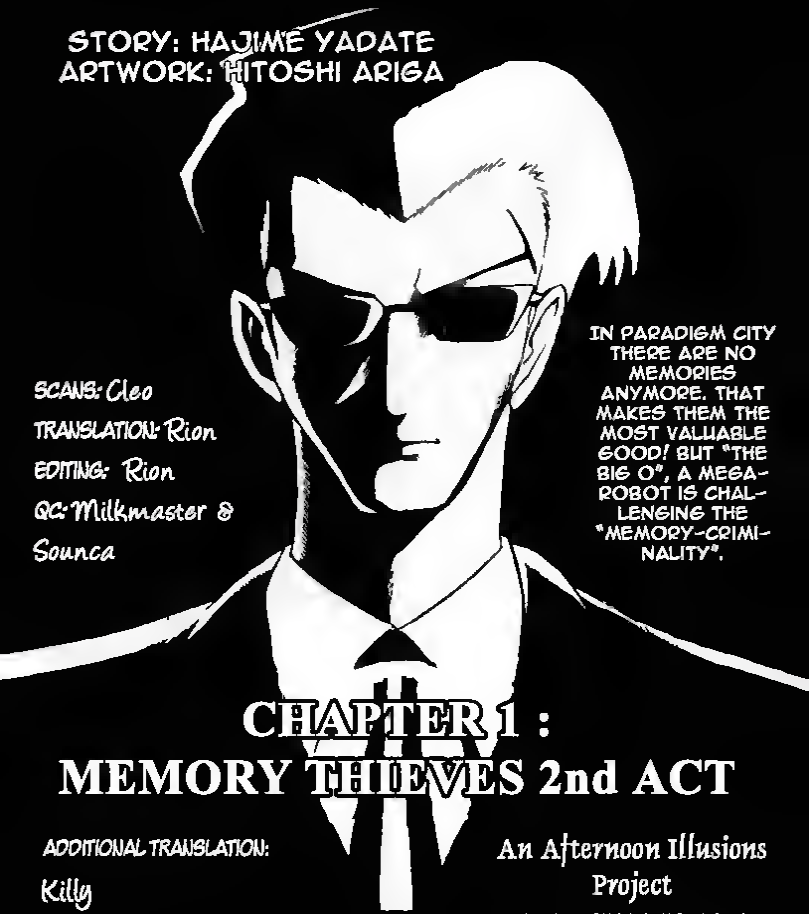
KEEP THESE PEOPLE AWAY!
WELL THEN ...
PUH
HOW RUDE!
GOOD LUCK.
THE MEMORY FILES ARE STORED IN THE FARTHEST PART OF THE BUILDING.
IS THERE SOMETHING TO GUARD?
BRING THE FILES BACK UNHARMED.
A MAN WITH AN MG IS GUARDING THEM...

WHAT?
THEY'RE SENDING A NEGOTIATOR?
AS LONG AS I HAVE THE MEMORIES...
HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY CHANCE!
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO, NEGOTIATOR.

MEMO-
RIES ARE
THE
MOST
VALU-
ABLE
GOOD.
PARADIGM
CITY, A
CITY
WITHOUT
MEMORIES.

THE BIG O

STORY: HAJIME YADATE
ARTWORK: HITOSHI ARIGA



IN PARADIGM CITY THERE ARE NO MEMORIES ANYMORE. THAT MAKES THEM THE MOST VALUABLE GOOD! BUT "THE BIG O", A MEGA-ROBOT IS CHALLENGING THE "MEMORY-CRIMINALITY".

SCANS: Cleo
TRANSLATION: Rion
EDITING: Rion
QC: Milkmaster & Sounca

CHAPTER 1 : MEMORY THIEVES 2nd ACT

ADDITIONAL TRANSLATION:
Killy

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I WISH TO NEGO-TIATE...
... I'M UNARMED, SO PLEASE LET ME IN.
BLAAM!
WE'LL SEE!!
I HAVE NO-THING TO HIDE.
DO YOU TRUST ME NOW?
PSCHING

PAT PAT
ROGER ...
HE MADE IT...
HE'S IN, MAJOR.
GOOD, A HOSTAGE MORE.
HE'S UN-ARMED, MARINO.
YES...
WHAT SURPRISE TO SEE YOU HERE AGAIN...

SO LET THEM GO.
YOU HAVE THE MEMORY FILES AFTER ALL.
SHUT UP!
WHY DON'T YOU LET THE POLICEMEN GO AND KEEP ME AS HOSTAGE?
... WE'RE NOT LEAVING UNTIL WE HAVE THE MONEY.
TELL THE MILITARY POLICE...
AT ALL COSTS!
WE WANT OUR MEMORIES BACK.
WHY THIS...
DON'T YOU DARE TRICK US!
YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT SAFELY.
... HIGH RANSOM ?

ARE YOU EVEN AWARE OF WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE?
NOBODY IS INJURED YET...
...AND THE FILES ARE STILL UN-HARMED
IT'S NOT TOO LATE...
BUT IF THE MEMORY FILES GET DAMAGED...
THERE'S NO POINT OF RETURN.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE OTHER PEOPLE'S MEMORIES!
IF EVERYTHING GOES FINE, BECK WILL PROCURE ME A JOB...
EVEN IF...
...
... YOU'LL HAVE SUCCESS, THEY WILL SEARCH FOR YOU FOREVER.
IS IT WORTH TO SA-CRIFICE YOUR FUTURE FOR YOUR PAST?
...
ARE YOU CERTAIN BECK IS NOT BETRAY-ING YOU?

FOR MY MEMORIES I'LL BRING EVERY SACRIFICE!
KAY!

... BY MYSELF!
I HAVE TO DO EVERY-THING..

WHY DO THEY TAKE SO LONG?

GSHING
IRRR!!!

WHAT?

FINISH THIS, MARINO!
TIME TO SHOW THEM WHO'S THE BOSS!
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?
WAAAH
AAAH
!!!HHH
MAJOR !!
NOOO!

DO YOU WANT YOUR MEMO-RIES BACK OR NOT?
ALL OR NO-THING, MARI-NO!
MARI-NO?
FFD
HEY!
LOOK CARE-FULLY!
GET THE RANSOM READY!
WUPO
AND HURRY UP, OR ALL THE FILES WILL...

!!
...BURN UP!
HM?
GGGGGGL
FINALLY...

HE'S GONE!
!
WHAT'S THIS TREMBLE?
?!
GGGGGGGGGGG
WAAH
AAH
... NOT AGAIN.
OH NO...
...
GGGGGG
—

...TO A SAFE PLACE!
IT'S STARTING AGAIN... TAKE THE PEOPLE...
GGGGGGGGGG
I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE...
BUT THE SITUA-TION GOT OUT OF CONTROL
I'D REALLY LIKED TO SOLVE THIS MORE ELE-GANTLY...
GGGGGGGGGG
SHOW TIME!
BIG O...

GGGGGG

BIG O...
IN THE NAME OF GOD,
ACTION!!
MAY THOU, THAT ART WITHOUT SIN,
BE GIVEN POWER OVER THIS MACHINE.

GAZING
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME...

!!
KNOCK HIM OFF!
THE ENEMY IS RIGHT BEFORE YOU!
SHOOT
BECK ...
RAT-TAT-TAT-T

KZZZONG
ZNGG
BZNNG

IIHH
WAAH
MEGA-DEUS, NO...
YOU'LL DAMAGE THE MEMORY-BANK..!

RRMMB

WHERE ARE YOU?
GIVE UP FINALLY
DOOM
... YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CHANCE.
WITH THIS ARMORED CAR...
THERE IS NO OTHER POSSI-BILITY!
... THAT BECK SHOT THE FILES...
I WILL TESTIFY FOR YOU...
...

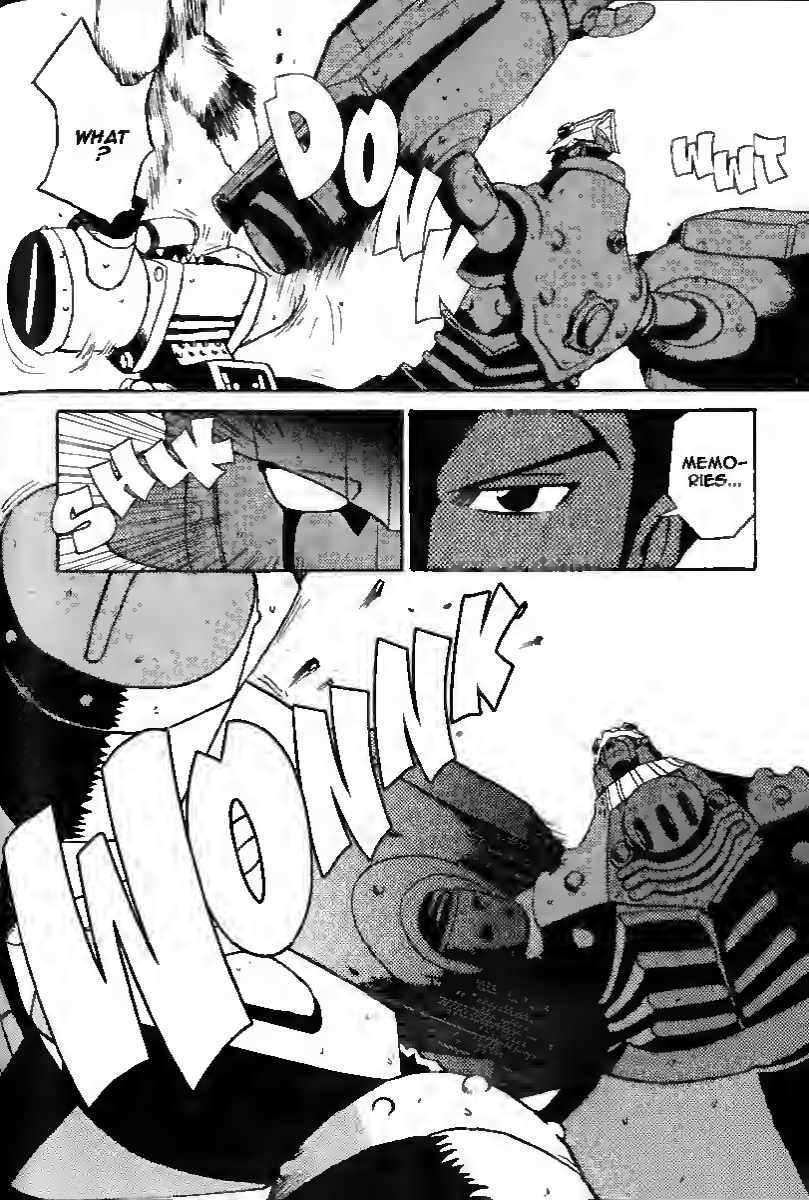
... WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN ME AND MARINO?
CAN YOU TELL US...
WAS HE... MY LOVER?
ARE WE SIB-LINGS?
OR DID WE HATED OUR-SELVES?
TELL ME!
NEGOTI-ATOR!
ANS-WER MY QUES-TIONS!
RRMM

YOU WANT AN ANSWER
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
WHAT'S OVER, IS OVER.
... CAN'T BE BROUGHT BACK.
WHAT'S IN THE PAST,
,,,
GAANG

NO.. WHAT'S IMPORTANT, IS..
BUT WITHOUT MY PAST, I'M NOTHING!
PULL THE RED HANDLE, MARINO!
NOW!
IT'S NOT OVER YET!
GO TO HELL, MEGADEUS!
KACHONG
WRRT

WHAT DID YOU THINK?
HA, HA, HA! NOT BAD, BECK!
IF I WIN OVER HIM...
... WE'VE DONE!
FINALLY, WE'LL KNOW...
BE PATIENT, KAY...

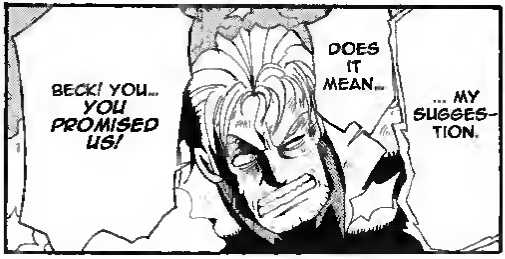
...THE TRUTH ABOUT OUR PAST!
GAKING
I'LL ...
BRING BACK OUR MEMO-RIES!
DHONK


WHAT ?
DONK
WHT
SHIK
MEMO-RIES...
WONNK

DOSUN
MARINO!!

IF NOT, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE AGREED ...
HNNG ...
YOU'RE REALLY AN IDIOT, MARINO...
ZZZ...

...
THAT'S NOT FAIR.

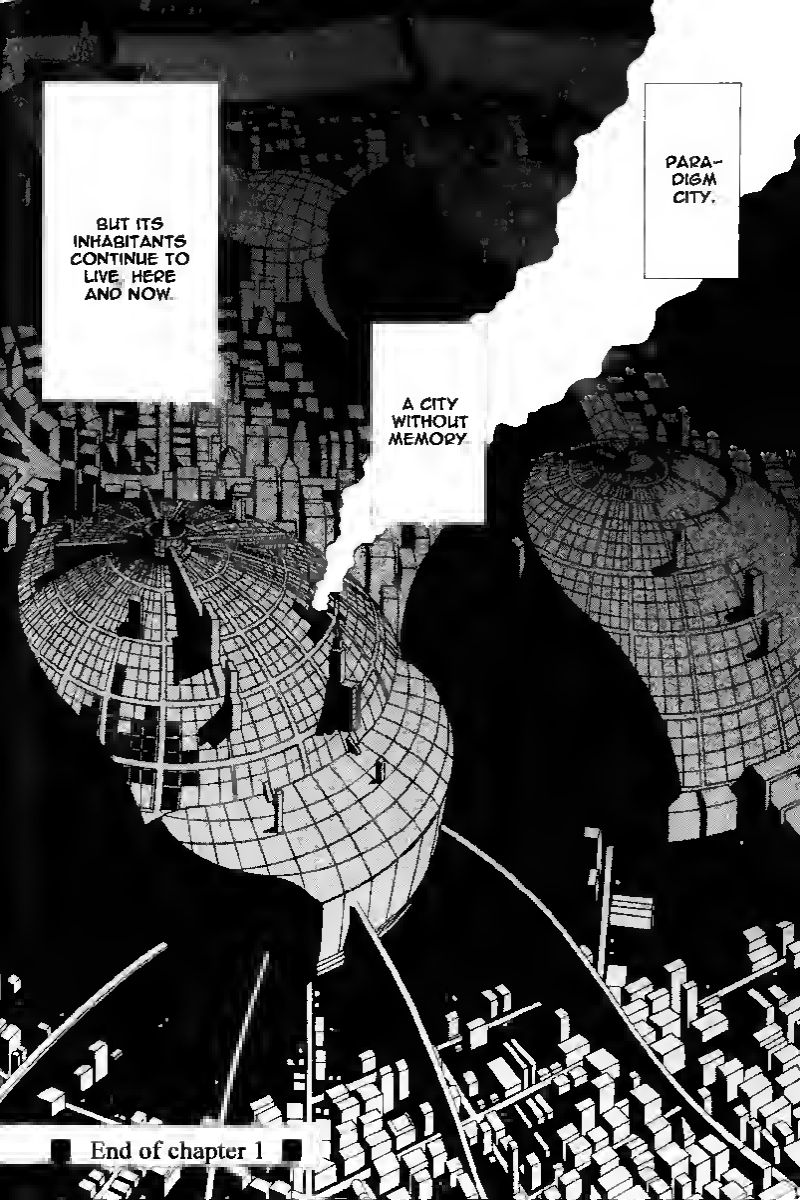

BECK! YOU... YOU PROMISED US!
DOES IT MEAN...
... MY SUGGESTION.

BECK ... !!
PROMISED! ME? YOUR MEMO-RIES? I CAN'T REMEM-BER!
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
IT WAS A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH YOU, MARINO!
KLICK
THIS IS THE LAST TIME THAT MEGADEUS DISTURBS MY PLANS...
WOOD

BOOM
MAJOR ...
WAIT ...

...
MARI-NO !!
HNNG
MEGADEUS ISN'T DAMAGED AT ALL?!
RRMB
HE'S GONE ...
DA-MN!

YOU FAILED. SO YOU WON'T HAVE ANY AWARD.
ROGER.
NEGO-TIA-TOR...
BUT AS I SAID ALREADY...
I WILL TRY TO MODE RATE YOUR PENALTY.
THE PAST CAN'T BE BROUGHT BACK.
WHAT COUNTS ARE... PRESENT AND FUTURE...



End of chapter 1

THE BIG O

STORY: HAJIME YADATE
ARTWORK: HITOSHI ARIGA

CHAPTER 2:
ELECTRIC BUTTERFLY

SCANS: Cleo
TRANSLATION & EDITING: Rion
QC: akikaze & hanhana

An
Afternoon Illusions
Project
a-illusionskakyoku.org
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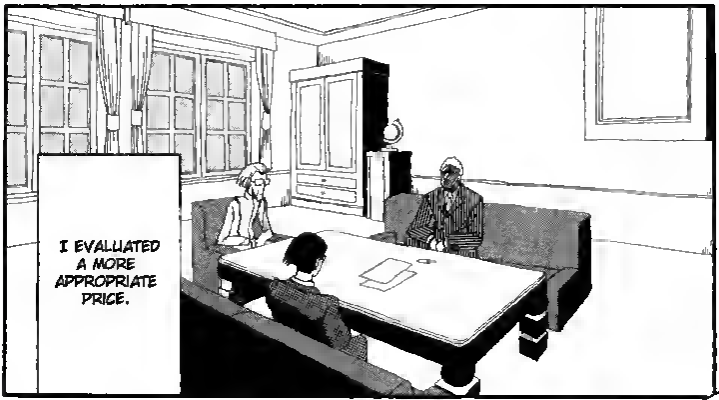
IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE DOME OF PARADIGM CITY, AN OLD SCHOOL BUILDING HAS TO BE TORN DOWN.
SINCE THE COMPENSATION MONEY OFFERED BY THE PARADIGM FACTORIES SEEMED TO LITTLE TO ME,


I EVALUATED A MORE APPROPRIATE PRICE.

WHAT?
ARE YOU FOR REAL? YOU'RE DEMANDING...
10 TIMES MORE THAN INITIALLY PROPOSED!

IN ORDER TO BUILD A NEW SCHOOL, THIS SLUM IS APPROPRIATE.
THIS SCHOOL BUILDING IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CITY.
AREN'T YOU CARING AT ALL FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN?
TO TEACH THE KIDS IN ONE OF THE TOWER BUILDINGS.
IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE
BUT NOT THESE KIDS...
CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE!
THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THE CHILDREN IN THE DOME.
WAPP

ALL THE BEST, SIR.
NO PROBLEM. YOU CAN CALL ME ANYTIME.
THE FUTURE OF THIS CITY..

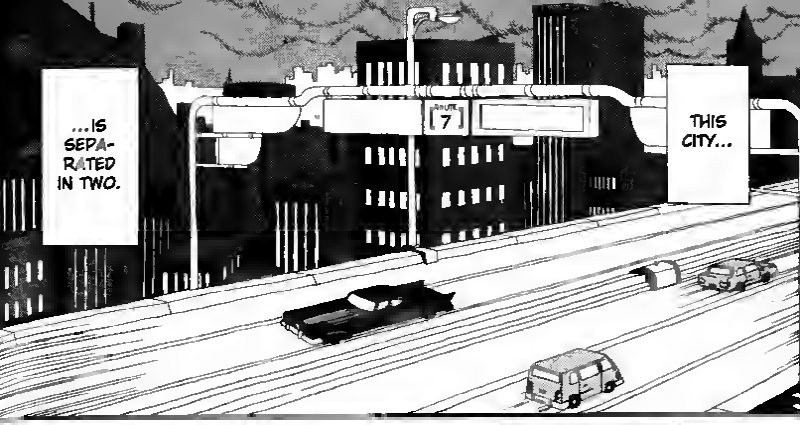
KLACK
KLACK
KLACK
HM
THIS PICTURE... ALL LIES!

WHY DO YOU THINK SO?
THE SKY ISN'T THAT BLUE.
AND FLOWERS AREN'T THAT COLORFUL.
HM?
SUCH INSECTS ALSO DON'T EXIST.
YOU KNOW, AT THAT TIME...
THE SKY WAS BLUE AND THE FLOWERS COLOR-FUL.
INSECTS LOOK DIFFERENTLY.

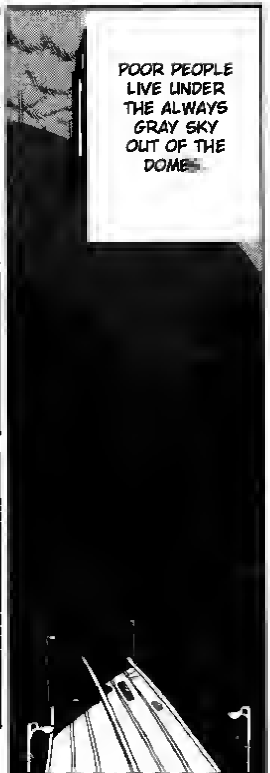
LIKE THAT!
SHEILA
SHEILA IS LYING AGAIN!
INSECTS DIED OFF A LONG TIME AGO!
SHE'S ALWAYS LYING!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YEAH? WHERE?
I SAW THEM MYSELF !

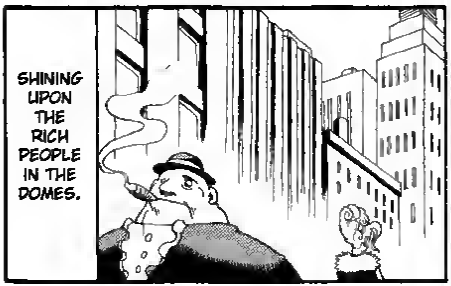
FFD
I'M NOT LYING!
FFD
FFD
YOU'RE LYING, YOU'RE LYING!
?!
THE LIGHT IS OFF!
DON'T WORRY. IT'S JUST A POWER BLACKOUT.
PEOPLE FEAR DARKNESS... ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE IN THIS CITY...
PROBABLY IT'S BECAUSE OF THE INCIDENT 40 YEARS AGO...
ALTHOUGH THE CHILDREN CAN'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED BACK THEN.
BZZZ

HUG
IT'S OVER.
MMPF
THANK YOU, UNCLE!
UNC LE?
HONK HONK HONK
RRRRRRR


...IS SEPA-RATED IN TWO.
ROUTE 7
THIS CITY...

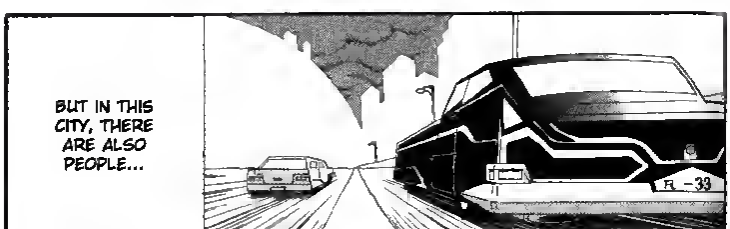
WHILE THERE IS AN ELECTRIC "SUN"


POOR PEOPLE LIVE UNDER THE ALWAYS GRAY SKY OUT OF THE DOME.

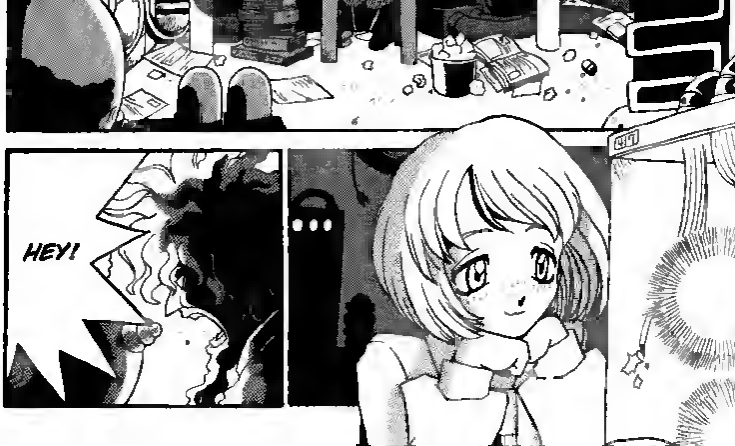

SHINING UPON THE RICH PEOPLE IN THE DOMES.

DESPITE THE DIFFERENT LIVING CONDI-TIONS...
...ALL THE INHABITANTS ARE THE SAME.
THEY ALL FEAR TO LOOSE THEIR MEMORY, BUT...
IT'S POSSIBLE TO DRIVE A CAR WITHOUT KNOWING HOW IT WORKS.
AND IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE TO LIVE WITHOUT MEMORIES.

FFD
?!
ZZZD
HOW CAN THAT BE POSSIBLE?
TWO POWER BLACK-OUTS IN ONE DAY...


BUT IN THIS CITY, THERE ARE ALSO PEOPLE...

...WHOSE MEMORIES SUDDENLY COME BACK.

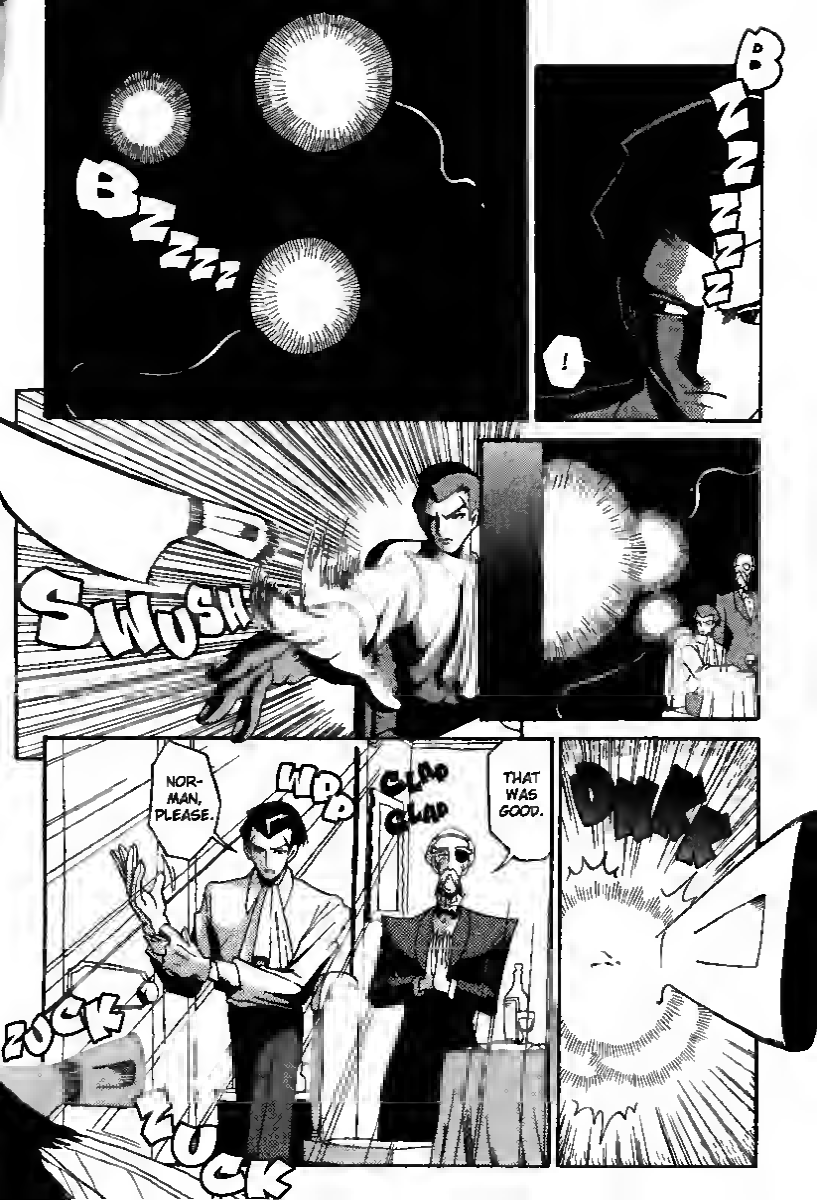

HEY!

HEL-LO.
IS YOUR GRAND-PA THERE?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU THIS?
GET AWAY FROM THE CON-TAINER!
HOW IS IT GOING ?
FINALLY I CAN CONTINUE MY RESEARCH.
TACK TACK
BECK.. THANKS AGAIN...
TELL ME WHEN YOU NEED SOMETHING ELSE.
THE EQUIPMENT IS QUITE GOOD, HM?

I KNOW. YOU'LL HAVE THEM.
BUT I WANT TO SEE RESULTS...
YOU'LL HAVE EVERY-THING.
GOOD.
I'M KEEPING MY WORD.
AND DON'T TELL ANYBODY, OKAY?
SNIK
DEFT
YOU MUSTN'T SAY ANY-THING ABOUT THIS.
THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO.

SOLDANO'S MECHS FIGHT AGAINST MEGA-DEUS.
TILL NOW, I'VE ALWAYS LET...
BUT ...
GYAHH!
AND THEY ALWAYS GOT BEATEN BY HIM.
...NOW IT'S THE LAST TIME.
HIS POWER WON'T HELP HIM AT ALL!
HE'S COMPLETELY HELPLESS AGAINST WHAT I HAVE HERE!
I'M INVINCI-BLE, MEGA-DEUS!

ROGER SMITH'S ESTATE
DON'T YOU LIKE THE FOOD TODAY, SIR?
AH, YES, THANK YOU, NORMAN.
IT SEEMS YOU'RE WORRIED SIR.
THERE WERE TWO POWER BLACKOUTS OUT OF THE DOMES.
TWO?
FFD
HOW UN-USUAL.
DZZD
HM
?

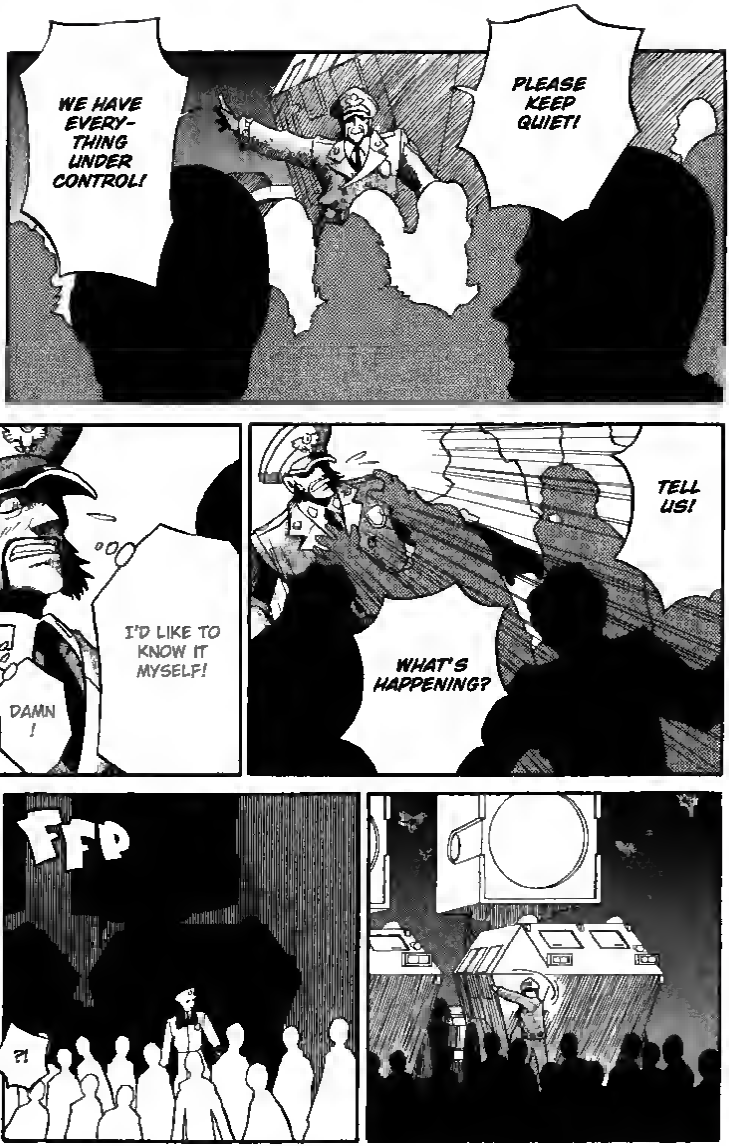

BZZZZ
!
BZZZZ
SWUSH
NOR-
MAN,
PLEASE.
WIPE
CLEAN
CLEAN
THAT
WAS
GOOD.
DRINK
ZUCK
ZUCK

ZUCK
ZUCK
THAT'S AN...
WHA-WHAT ?
INSECT ?
THIS INSECT ISN'T REGISTERED ANYWHERE.
HOW...
COMES IT'S HERE?

KLACK
KLACK
I'LL LOOK FOR THIS CASE.
THERE WEREN'T ANY INSECTS IN PARADIGM CITY FOR 40 YEARS.
KLACK
KLACK
KLACK
KLACK
WHERE IN THIS CITY...
DO THESE INSECTS EXIST?
AT THAT TIME, INSECTS NOURISHED ON FLOWERS AND OTHER PLANTS...
THEN WHAT DO THEY FEED UPON?
A GOOD QUESTION.
I'LL FIND THAT OUT.
GOOD LUCK.
BUT TODAY THERE ISN'T ANY FLOWER NOR PLANTS...

BZZZ
BZZ
BZZZ
BZZ
BZZZ
F F D
?
I'VE HAD PITY FOR THEM!
WHAT? YOU LET THEM OUT?

ARE YOU REALLY...
MY GRAND-DAUGHTER?
WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?
THAT WAS MY LIFE-WORK!
HOW COULD...
YOU...
HIS MEMORY IS QUITE BAD...
HOPEFULLY HE CAN CONTINUE WITH THE RESEARCH
.....
TAP
OR ARE YOU A SPY?
...


WE HAVE EVERY-THING UNDER CONTROL!
PLEASE KEEP QUIET!
DAMN !
I'D LIKE TO KNOW IT MYSELF!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
TELL US!
FFD
!?

Oh...
ALL GENERATORS HAVE DROPPED OUT.
WHY?
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE...
SWITCH ON EMERGENCY ELECTRICITY!
THEY'RE FEEDING UPON ELECTRICITY!
FFD
FFD
FFD
SO...
FFD
Bzz
Bzzz
Bzzz
BRRRRR
BRRRRR
!

!!
THAT PICTURE!
SHEILA KNOWS THESE INSECTS.
I HAVE TO FIND HER.
I HOPE SHE'S OKAY.
HA, HA, HA, HA!
CONQUER THIS CITY FOR ME!

WHAT ?
BRAZZZ
THESE INSECTS ...
ARE CON-CENTRA-TING?
BRZZ
THEY ...

THEY'RE A BIG DANGER...
THE ELECTRIC INSECTS AREN'T MATURED YET.
WAIT!
NOW, GO AWAY!
HOW DARE YOU? WE HAD AN AGREE-MENT!
BZZMMM
BZZMM
BZZMM
BZZMM
...?!
SKRREE

BWWWW
BWWWW
WHAT'S THIS?
HAHA, WITH THIS MONSTER. ..
I'LL DEFEAT MEGA-DEUS!
AND THEN ...
NOTHING CAN STOP ME!

BRZZZMMM
WMMD
BZMMM
BZMMM
OH NO!
IT KEEPS ...
GROWING!
WDD
NORMAN!
EVERY-THING'S READY, SIR!

ACTION !
GRRRR
...OVER THIS MACHINE.
...BE GIVEN POWER ...
O...
BIG
KRRK
KRRK
RACK
MAY THOU, THAT ART WITHOUT SIN,
...IN THE NAME OF GOD...

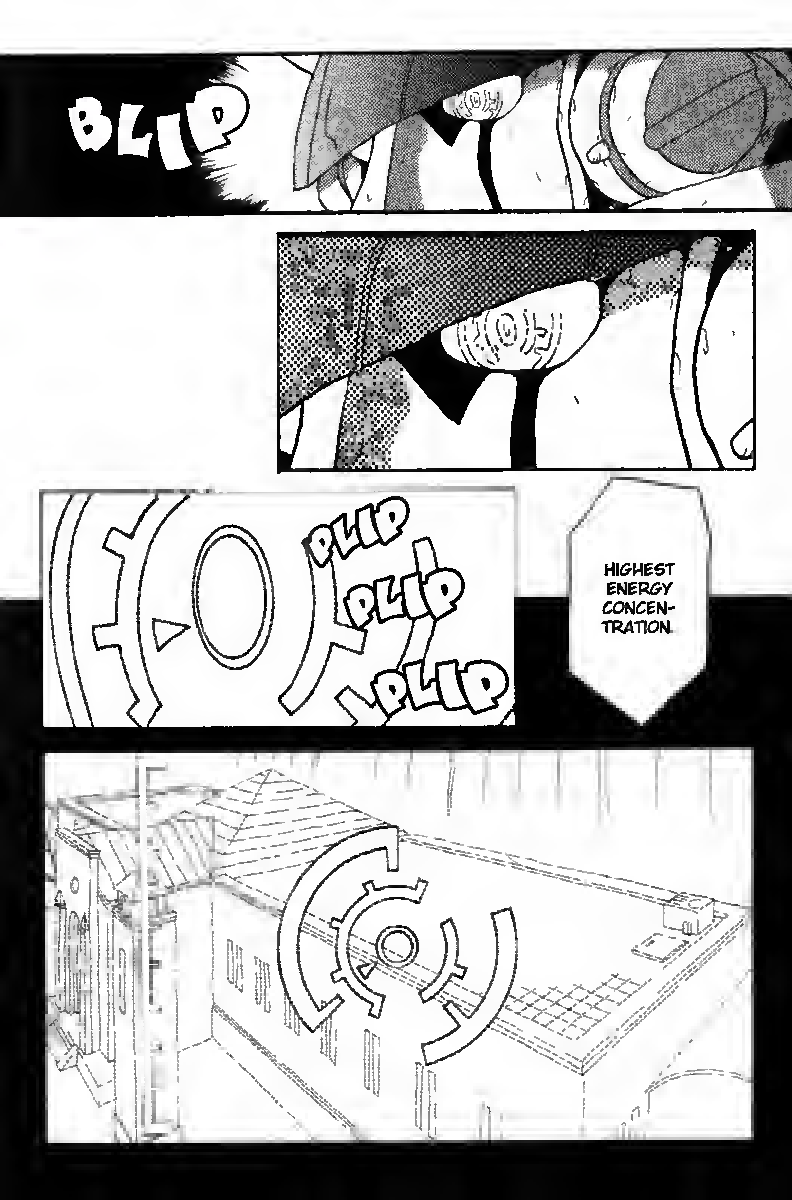
BRATT
BRATT
BRATT
BRATT
TSCHAK
I SHOULD KEEP DISTANCE...
TCK

KOOM!!!
BUMMM
HA, HA, HA!
THAT WAS NOTHING, MEGA-DEUS!
WHAT?
..
IT'S FLEEING ?

BTHOMM
BWMMM
GASHING
GASHING
GASHING

WHERE ARE YOU HIDING?
HE CAN'T BE FAR AWAY ...
GASHING

WHAT?


BLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
HIGHEST ENERGY CONCEN-TRATION.

THE SCHOOL BUIL-DING.
WHY ...
ARE YOU HIDING HERE?

GRRNK
WILL PAY COMPENSATION.
ALTHOUGH PARADIGM FACTORIES...
I DON'T LIKE DOING THIS...
BAKOM

BNNNMM
I GOT YOU!!

THAT'S WHY THEY'RE HERE!
THE ELECTRICITY SOURCE FOR THE DOMES!
SKREEE
KLACK ATACK
NOW LET'S GO TO THE MAIN DISH!
BIPBIPBIPBIP
TSCHAK
THAT WAS ONLY THE HORS D'OEUVRE.

BINNNN
!!
MMMM
...

BZZZM
ZZZMM
BRZZD
BRZZD
BZZ
BZZZ
YOUR ENERGY IS COMING FROM ELECTRICITY TOO!
ISN'T IT, MEGADEUS?
DAMN!
KLICK
KLICK
KLICK
ALL SYSTEMS HAVE BROKEN DOWN!

BLOOSH!
SO, MEGA-DEUS HAS A PILOT?
?
SHZNG
DWEEEN
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE...
HE HAS LEFT THE COCKPIT.
TAP

MUA HA HA HA HA HAR!
THE VICTORY IS MINE!
BIWWMMM
BIP BIP BIP
FINALLY THE TIME FOR REVENGE HAS COME!

DESTROY HIM!
YEAH!
BWWWWM
KZZZMMM
...

NO...
FAZONG
DWONKK!
THAT MONSTER DEFEATED MEGADELIS?
UNBELIEVABLE!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!

HE'S STILL STANDING...
THE ELECTRIC INSECTS NEED MORE ENERGY.
BIPBIPBIPBIP
BZZZZZ
WAAAAH!
THEY'RE REAL!
JUST LIKE ON THE PICTURE!
SHEILA WAS RIGHT.

FFD
FFD
FFD
FINALLY ...
TACK TACK TACK TACK
BREAK AWAY!
FFFDDD

WHOOOSH!
WWMMMBB

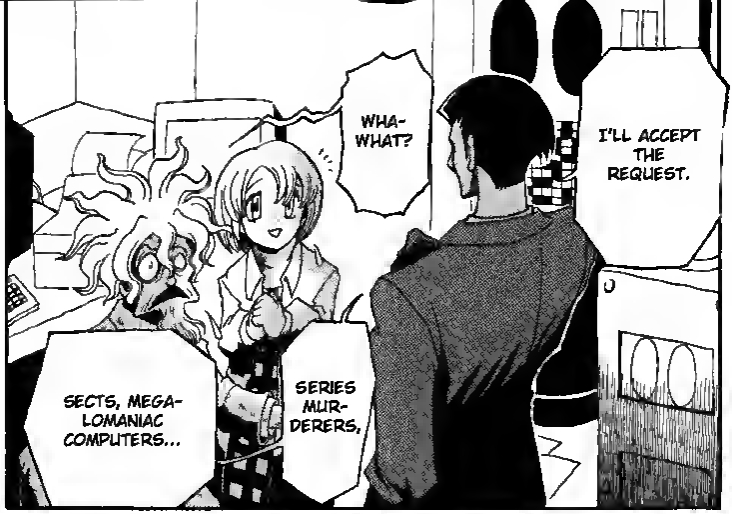
IS EVERY-THING OKAY?
KOFF
KOFF
KOFF

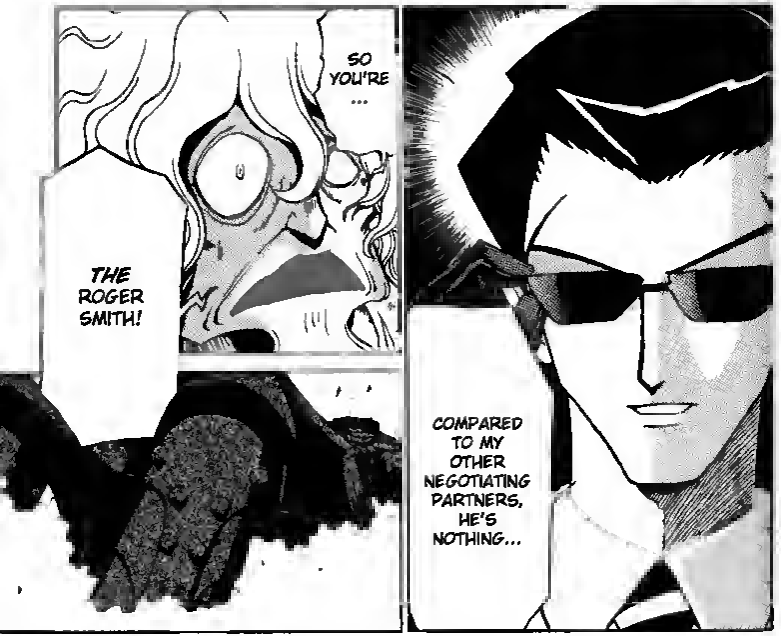
WHAT ?
WANK
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
I MADE A PACT WITH THE DEVIL...
JUST FOR MY RE-SEARCHES ...
PLEASE FORGIVE ME... SHEILA!
HOW COULD I FORGET YOU?

!!
THEN HELP US!
EVERY-THING IS MY FAULT!
INSTEAD OF MOANING, YOU SHOULD ...
SHEILA!
GRAND-PA!
TO STOP THESE INSECTS, PROFESSOR!
RATHER FIND A WAY...

SKRRK
I'M SORRY...
KRRACK
IF I HADN'T LET OUT THE INSECTS...
EVERY-THING WOULDN'T HAVE HAP-PENED
HELP US, GRANDPA!

TELL ME WHAT I HAVE TO DO...
THESE INSECTS ARE YOUR INVENTION, GRANDPA!
YOU HAVE TO FIND A WEAK POINT!
AND THEN WE'LL INFORM MEGADEUS!
YOU'VE DONE SO MUCH FOR OUR SCHOOL ALREADY!
COULD YOU DO THAT?
YOU WANT ME TO NEGOTIATE WITH MEGADEUS...
AND TO TELL HIM HOW TO DEFEAT THE MONSTER.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, SHEILA.
WELL...


I'LL ACCEPT THE REQUEST.
WHA- WHAT?
SERIES MUR- DERERS,
SECTS, MEGA- LOMANIAC COMPUTERS...


SO YOU'RE ...
THE ROGER SMITH!
COMPARED TO MY OTHER NEGOTIATING PARTNERS, HE'S NOTHING...

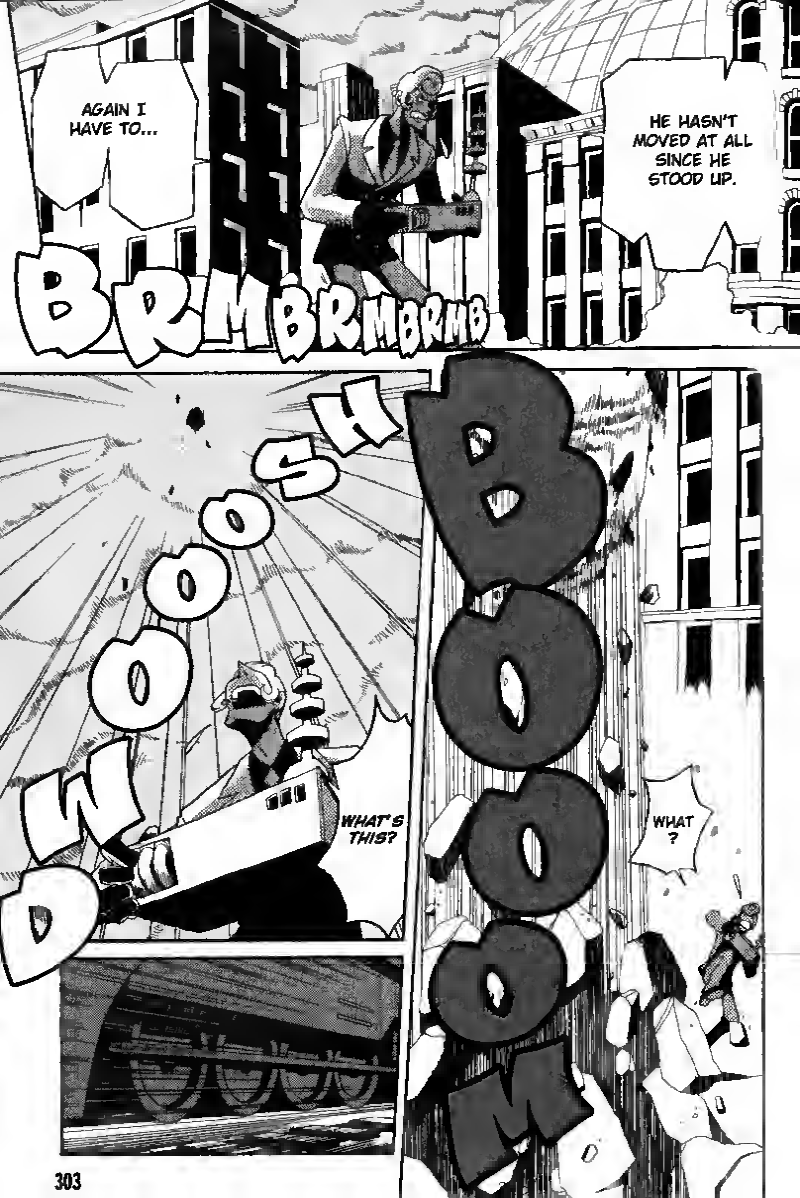
NOTHING CAN STOP ME ANY-MORE!
HA
NOW IT'S FINI-SHED!
PFFF
WHAT KIND OF UNSPEC-TACULAR ENDING...
WHAT ?
CLICKING
DWEEH
NOBODY IS MORE POWER-FUL THAN...
TSHPD

GASCHING
WHAAAAAAT?
THE ELECTRIC BUTTERFLIES ARE NOTHING BUT MOBILE ELECTRIC GENERATORS.
THEY COULD BE USED IN ALL CITY AREAS...
WITH FEW ELECTRICITY.

IN ORDER TO GROW, THEY NEED A LOT OF ELECTRI-CITY.
BUT THEY'RE NOT MATURED YET.
THEY TRANSFORM THE SPARE ENERGY TO LIGHT.
BUT THEIR CAPACITY IS LIMITED.
TO EXCEED THEIR CAPACITY.
YOU HAVE TO DO SOME THING...
THAT MEANS ?

BUT THE AMOUNT NEEDED FOR THAT CORRESPONDS TO THAT OF THE WHOLE CITY FOR A MONTH.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THAT MUCH ELECTRICITY...
NOW I KNOW...
THEIR WEAK POINT.
I'LL SPEAK WITH MEGADEUS.
THANK YOU, MR. NEGOCIATOR!

GWOOOOO
NOW YOU KNOW.
TAP TAP
WHOOOSH
EVERY-THING READY, NOR-MAN?
YES, HE'S ALREADY ON THE ROAD.
HOPE-FULLY THE DAMAGE CAN BE REPAIRED.
YOU CAN DO THAT.


AGAIN I HAVE TO...
BRMBRMBRMB
HE HASN'T MOVED AT ALL SINCE HE STOOD UP.
WHOOSH
WHAT'S THIS?
BOOOOM
WHAT ?

SKRIII
GWEEEE
GOOD WORK, NOMRAN.
KRACKLE
LET'S GO!
BRMB
BRMB
BSHHH
THE CITIZENS OF THIS CITY KEEP AVOIDING ALL UNDERGROUND AREAS... SO WE COULD MOVE FREELY THERE.

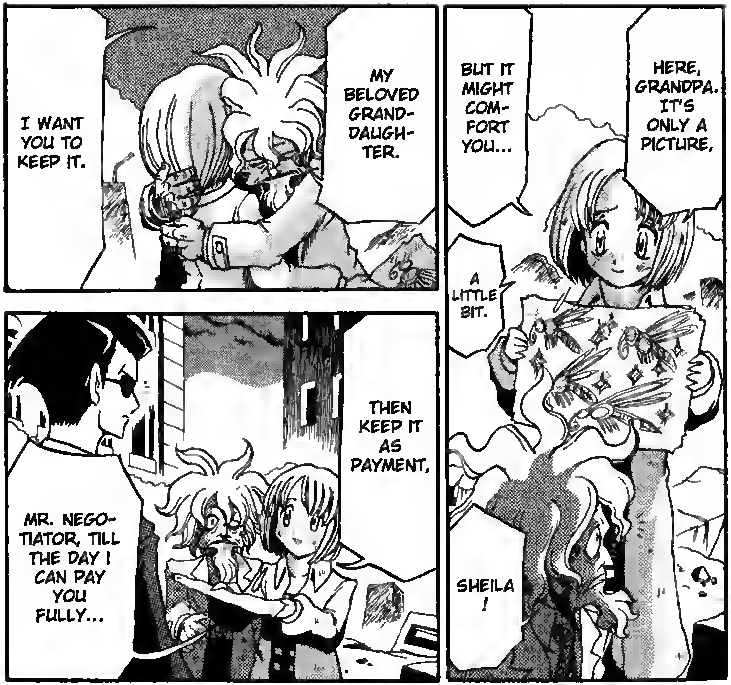
HUH?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
!!
GO ON, MY FRIENDS... DEFEAT HIM A SECOND TIME!
GADUNK
PWEE...
KRRK
KRRK
KRRK
RACK

BRMB RMB RMBL...
GWEEN
SHOW-TIME.
MAN

RMBL RMBL
HA, HA, HA!
THAT DOESN'T IMPRESS ME MUCH, MEGA-DEUS!
WE'LL DEFEAT YOU...
BRMB BRMB BRMB
SRRRM
SZZRRAKK

КАЗОМ
?!
BZZZAMM

KRACK
...
IT'S OVER...
IT'S BETTER THIS WAY... FAREWELL, MY CHILDREN.
!
BRRK
WPP

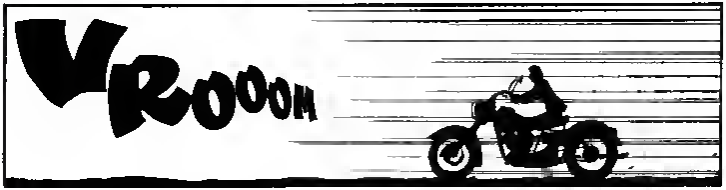

I WANT YOU TO KEEP IT.
MY BELOVED GRAND-DAUGHTER.
BUT IT MIGHT COMFORT YOU...
HERE, GRANDPA. IT'S ONLY A PICTURE,
A LITTLE BIT.
SHEILA!
THEN KEEP IT AS PAYMENT,
MR. NEGOTIATOR, TILL THE DAY I CAN PAY YOU FULLY...

PROBABLY THE BLUE SKY AND THE COLORFUL FLOWERS WILL ALWAYS REMAIN A DREAM.
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
OH... THAT PICTURE.

IF WE CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE REALIZATION OF OUR DREAMS,
THEY MAY BECOME REAL.

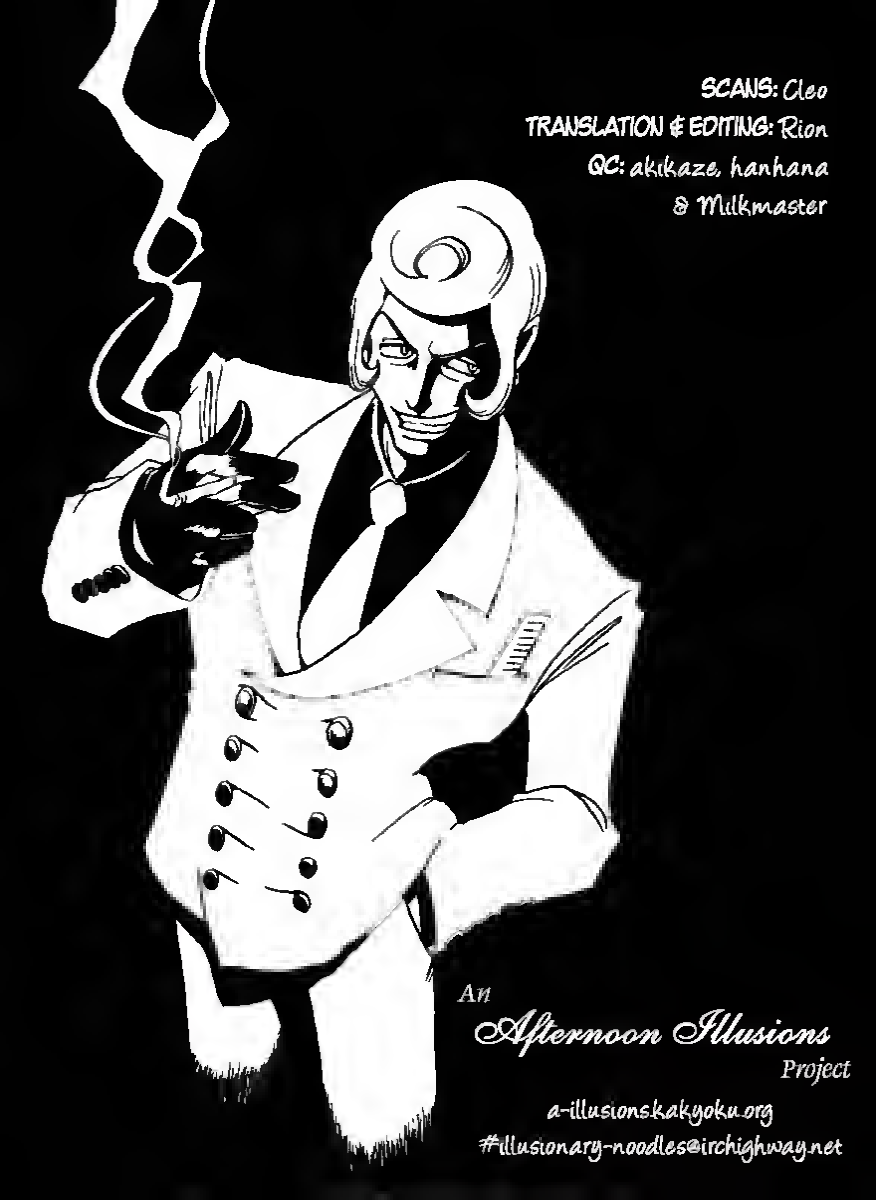
YOUR GRANDPA'S ELECTRIC BUTTERFLIES ARE THE BEST PROOF!

THIS PICTURE ...
IS ENOUGH AS PAYMENT.


VROOOM

I'LL FIND OUT YOUR SECRET, MEGA-DEUS.
DAMN... I HAVE TO GO BACK...
TO SOL-DERNO.
VROOOOM
ALL DAMAGED PARTS ARE COLLECTED.
THIS TIME, THE REPAIRS WILL NEED MORE TIME.
BUT AT LEAST, THE DAMAGE CAN BE REPAIRED.

THE WINE, SIR.
..
THIS PICTURE ...
OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE.
IS THE REALIZATION OF ALL DREAMS.
ELECTRIC BUTTERFLY / END



SCANS: Cleo
TRANSLATION & EDITING: Rion
QC: akikaze, hanhana & Milkmaster

An
Afternoon Illusions
Project

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THE BIG O

An
Afternoon Illusions
Project

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STORY: HAJIME YADATE
ARTWORK: HITOSHI ARIGA

SCANS: Cleo
TRANSLATION: Rion
EDITING: KingFish
LETTERING: Rion
PROOFREADING: akikaze & hanhana
QC: Milkmaster

WHEN LOST MEMORIES SUDDENLY COME BACK STRANGE INCIDENTS CAN OCCUR.
THIS IS PARADIGM CITY, A CITY WITHOUT MEMORIES.
MIGUEL SOLDERNO
THIS GIRL HAD TWO FATHERS. HER NAME IS R. DOROTHY.
JUST LIKE IN THE CASE OF THIS GIRL.

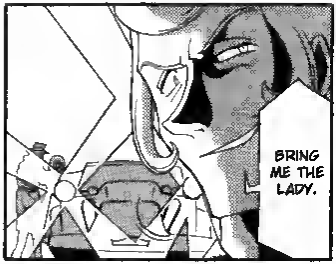
MY POOR DOROTHY!
GIVE ME MY DAUGHTER BACK!
BUT... SHE'S MY DAUGHTER...
YOU WERE OKAY WITH THAT.
HEY, SOLDERNO, HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR APPOINTMENT?
DOROTHY!
OKAY, THEN TAKE AWAY THIS LADY, BUT GENTLY.
BECK, WE'RE READY.
HM, WELL...

EASY
PFFFFF

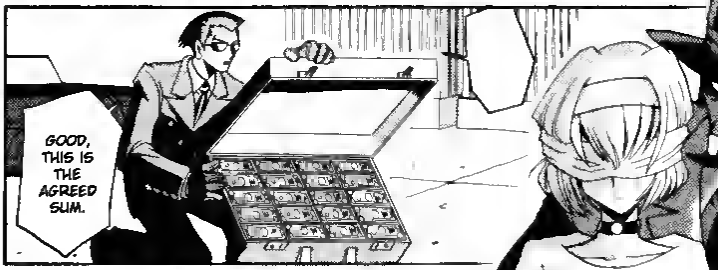
AS THE BEST NEGOTATIOR OF THE WHOLE CITY.
YOU'RE GAMBLING WITH YOUR GOOD REPUTATION ...
UFF.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ...
TANG
YOU ...
YOU ARE A NEGOTIATOR?
THIS REPUTATION.
WHY ?
YES...

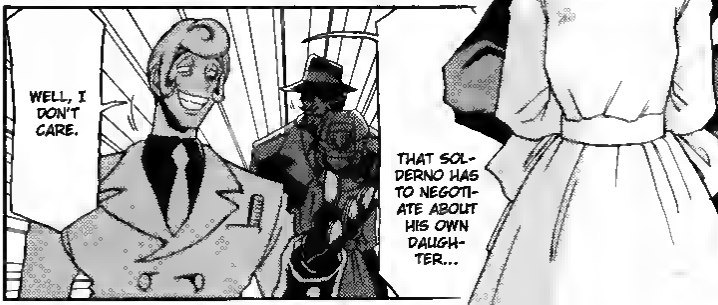
MY DAUGHTER ...
WAS KIDNAPPED!
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT MONEY!
FIRST CALM DOWN A LITTLE BIT.
BUT GOOD LUCK IN HIS JOB.
BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN ...
MY NEWEST CLIENT IS MIGUEL SOLDERNO...
VROOOM
DIRECTOR OF THE SOLDERNO FACTORIES. SUPPOSEDLY HE'S DEALING WITH UNDERGROUND ORGANIZATIONS.
HHHHH

EVERY FATHER CARES FOR HIS BELOVED CHILD.
BUT EVEN IF IT'S TRUE...
BAMM
WAPP
WAIT A MOMENT ...
PUT DOWN YOUR SUIT-CASE.
FIRST, I WANT TO SEE THE GIRL.


BRING ME THE LADY.

OF COURSE.
HM? OH...


GOOD, THIS IS THE AGREED SUM.


WELL, I DON'T CARE.
THAT SOLDERNO HAS TO NEGOTIATE ABOUT HIS OWN DAUGHTER...

OH, IT'S OKAY.
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE SUM?

TILL NEXT TIME!
YOU CAN TAKE THE BLINDFOLD OFF, MISS SOLDERNO.
VROOOMMM
CIAO!
SKREE
IT SEEMS HE COULDN'T WAIT.
VROOOM
IS THAT MR. SOL-DERNO?

BAM!!
DO-RO-THY!
SKREE
THE HANDING OVER WAS A SUCCESS.
DO-RO-THY!
DO-RO-THY!
THAT'S NOT HER!
HALF OF THE FEE...
WHAT?

DON'T YOU SEE IT? THIS IS A GODDAMN DOLL!
DWNNN
THE BEST NEGOTIA-TOR OF PARA-DIGM CITY!
ARE YOU BLIND?
AN ANDROID ...
...
RIDICU-LOUS!

KLICK
ZIP
VRRRRRR
WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT DID YOU DO?
WUMM

FOR THESE CASES.
I'M ALWAYS SECURED ...
DAMN.
GRR.
FWIP
WHOOSH
SPANG
SPANG
IDIOTS! IN THIS SUIT-CASE...
BRADDADDADDA
STOP!
FLAPP

!!
GULP
FLAT
HM
MONEY !
IT'S RAINING MONEY!

POS-SES-SING THIS MONEY IS CRIMI-NAL!
THE RANSOM FOR MR. SOLDERNO'S DAUGHTER HAS TO BE GIVEN TO THE MILITARY POLICE!
SAVING THE DAUGHTER HAS HIGHEST PRIORITY!
NO GOOD LUCK... IT WAS A CATAS-TROPHE!
YOU HAVEN'T HAD GOOD LUCK WITH THE HANDING OVER...

AHM, BY THE WAY, YOU HAVE A GUEST, SIR.
A VISITOR?... COMPLETELY UNANNOUNCED?
YES.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR HAVING YOU WAIT SO LONG.
USUALLY I DON'T RECEIVE UNANNOUNCED GUESTS EXCEPT FOR WOMEN.
MY NAME IS ROGER SMITH, HOW CAN I HELP...

ANDROID.
YOU ARE THAT ...
I HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU, ROGER.
HMF
SO? HOW INSOLENT.
DIDN'T YOU HAVE ANY EDUCATION AT ALL?
I'D LIKE YOU TO...
PROTECT ME.

I HAVE TO PLAY BODY-GUARD FOR AN ANDROID?
GO FIND SOMEONE ELSE...
SO IT'S NOT TRUE THAT...
ROGER SMITH NEVER LEAVES A WOMAN ALONE?
13

OH, FINALLY I SEE YOU AGAIN!
MY DAUGTHER DOROTHY II
SHE'LL STAY BY MY SIDE A LITTLE BIT LONGER, DADDY
YOU HAVE TO PAY...
THE RAN-SOM FOR BOTH OF THEM.

BECK!
GIVE ME MY DAUGH...
NOW, NOW, SOL-DERNO...
YOUR DAUGH-TER?
I ONLY SEE A BIG MECH.
AMONG ALL MY INVEN-TIONS, DOROTHY I IS MY MASTER-PIECE!
SHE'S JUST LIKE A DAUGH-TER TO ME!
BUT YOU HAVEN'T DESIGNED HER, ISN'T IT?
AND THEN YOU HIRED A NEGOTI-ATOR...
BACK THEN, ...
WE WOR-KED TOGE-THER SO WELL.

GWOOON
TIME TO END...
OUR BUSINESS, SOLDERNO.
YOU'VE DISAPPOINTED ME...
AND NOW, YOU HAVE TO TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES...
VRRRR

!
COULD YOU PLEASE TELL YOUR ANDROID..
MR. SOL-DERNO!
MR. SOL-DERNO!
ARGH.
KOFF KOFF
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET MYSELF GET INVOLVED WITH...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HE ONLY CONSTRUCTED ME.
MY R-REAL DAUGTHER ...
HUFF HUFF
DOROTHY II, YOU'RE BACK..
DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS!
THESE ARE THE PHANTASMS OF A DYING MAN.
SHE'S... RIGHT...

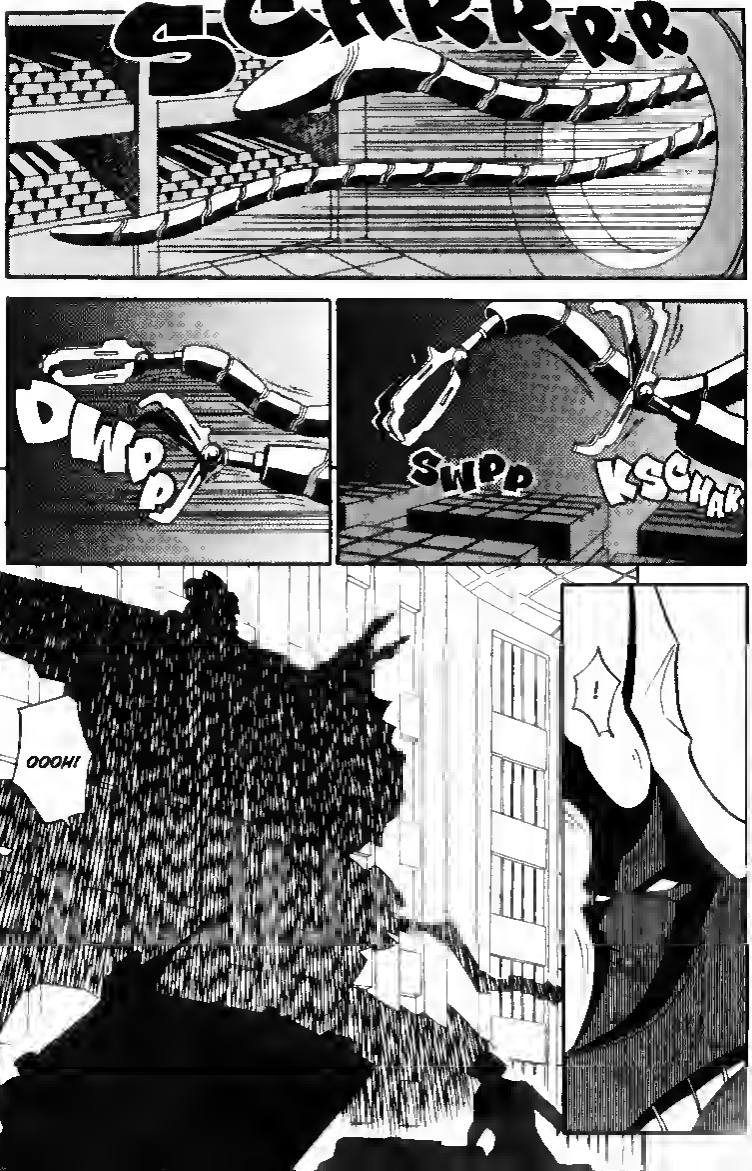
ROGER, SIR?
YOU'RE PRAYING?
NEVER HAD A DAUGHTER.
I FOUND OUT IN MY RESEARCHES THAT MR. SOLDERNO ...
A MECHA IN DOME NUMBER 5
WHAT'S UP, NORMAN?
OK
YES, NORMAN. I'M HEADING FOR THE DOME.
SHOULD I PREPARE EVERYTHING?
I SEE.
!

DORO-THY...
WE'RE GOING TO MEET YOUR SISTER.
DOMDOM
...
DOMDOOMM
AND FIRE!
THE BUIL-DINGS SHOULD NOT GET DAMAGED!

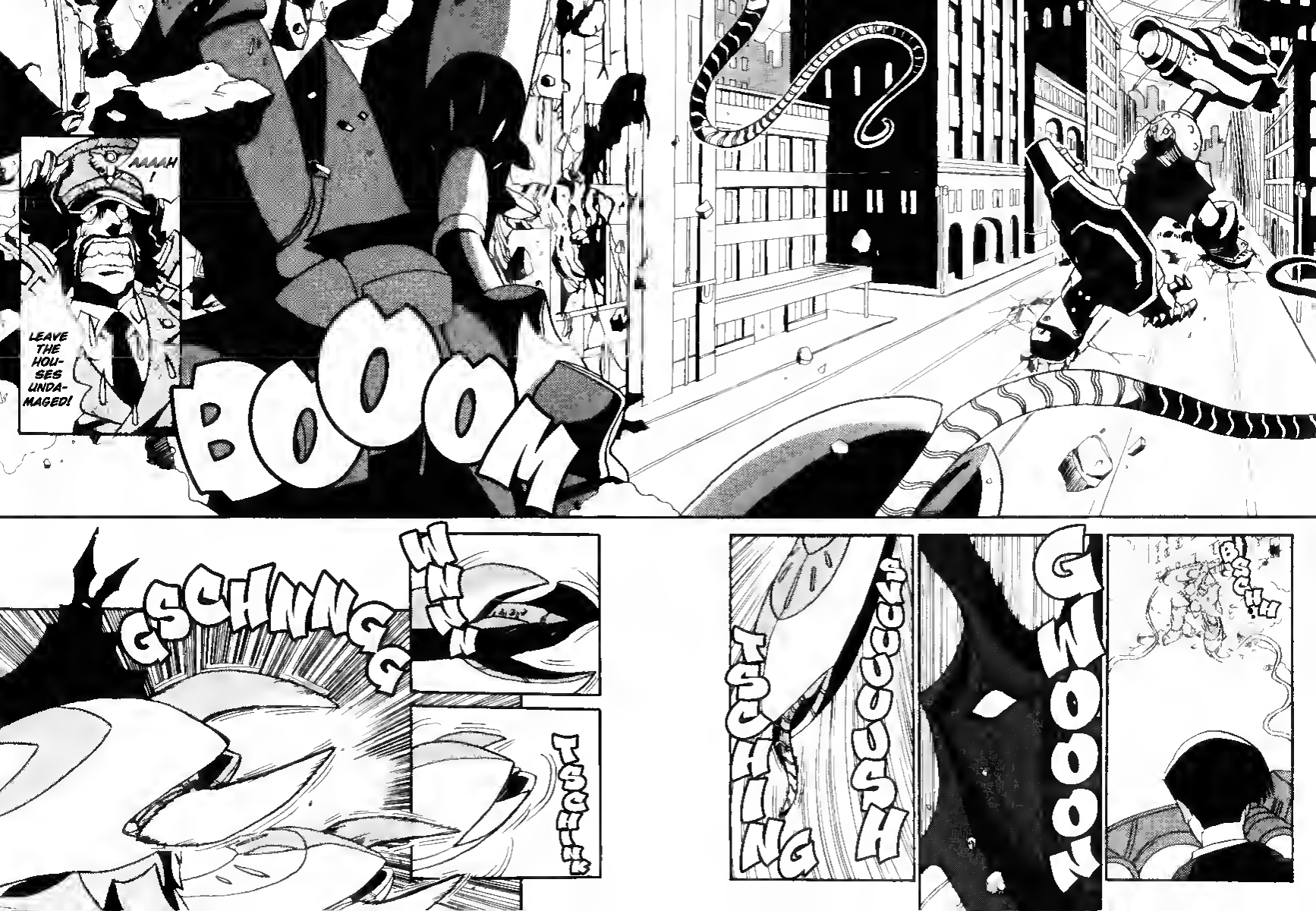
!!!
HE'S HEADING FOR THE BANK!
PIUUU
WOMP
VLISCH
SWISCH
SRRRRR
BWNNN

ZOSCH
STOP HIM!
HE'S LOO-KING FOR THE GOLD!
SLURRR
HM, YOUR SISTER HAS...
VERY BAD MAN-NERS.
HHHHH
HHHH

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.
PLEASE WAIT HERE.
WAPP


SCHRRRR
DWDD
SWPP
KSCHAK
!
OOOH!

SHIKAH
IT'S OVER!
GNNG GNNG
IF YOU WON'T LISTEN YOU GOT TO FEEL!
!
BWSCH
TSCHING
THAT'S NOT SUITABLE...
GRAB
FOR A FINE LADY!
MEGA-DEUS!


MMMH !
LEAVE THE HOUSES UNDAMAGED!
BOOOM
GSCHNNGG
WNNN
TSCHIK
TSCHING
GSCHUUSH
GWOOOZ
BSCHH!!

KNNN
KNNN
EVACUATE THE WHOLE CITY AREA, IMMEDIATELY!
AAAAH

GAINING
AAAA
PLEASE STAY CALM, THERE'S NO REASON FOR PANICK-ING.
AAAA
AAAAHHHHH
TAP

GRAB
BOOM
FOOP

GLING
GAAANG
WHAT?
SVRRR
SWISCH
WAPP

I'VE UNDER-ESTI-MATED HER.
GWOOON
?
WHY DID SHE INTER-RUPT THE ATTACK?
POCK
POCK

!
GOOD, I'M COMING.
THE EVACUATION IS FINISHED.
THERE'S ANOTHER GIRL...
GO AWAY FROM THERE!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS HERE!

GWNNNN
GOOD GIRL, DON'T MOVE.
WUUUSH
PWOCK
REST IN PEACE, DOROTHY I.

WUMMD
?!
DO...RO...
THY...I...

WHAT ARE YOU STANDING THERE FOR
HEY!
MAJOR DUSTON! DOROTHY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?

BRRMBL
WOMP
WOMP

MEGA-
DEUS...
?
HE PRO-
TECTED
ME?

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STAY HERE!
HEY!
BUT THE CASE WASN'T FINISHED YET.
ROGER, SIR.
AND HIS DAUGHTER...
MY CLIENT IS DEAD ...
DOROTHY DISAPPEARED? WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT?